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PREESALL URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

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COUNCIL OFFICES,
PREESALL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Preesall Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector for the year 1955.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	3,277.
Population, Census 1931	2,197.
Population (Mid-1955 estimated by Registrar General) ...	2,230.*
*An increase of 10 compared with 1954.	
Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1955)	786.
Rateable value at 1.4.55.	£15,303.
Amount produced by a penny rate	£61.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Thirty births, 13 males and 17 females, were registered during the year. The crude birth rate of 13•5 and the adjusted birth rate of 17•2 per 1,000 compares with 14•0 and 17•9 respectively for 1954.

STILLBIRTHS.

There were no stillbirths during the year 1955.

DEATHS.

Thirty-eight deaths, 22 males and 16 females, were registered during the year. The crude death rate of 17•0 and the adjusted rate of 10•6 per 1,000 compares with 17•1 and 10•6 respectively for 1954.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There was one death of an infant under one year of age during the year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY ... ... NIL

Comparative Table of Births, Deaths, Stillbirths, Maternal and Infant Mortality.

PREESALL U.D.	Live Births		Deaths (All causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-Natal	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1000 total births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1000 live births	No. of deaths registered	Rate per 1000 live births
YEAR 1955	30	*13·5	38	*17·0	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	33	1	33
1954	31	14·0	38	17·1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1953	33	14·9	46	20·8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1952	18	8·2	38	17·3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1951	23	10·5	36	16·4	3	115	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1950	23	10·4	37	16·7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	87	2	87
Average 5 years 1950-1954	–	11·6	–	18·2	–	23	–	Nil	–	17	–	–

*Adjusted (Live birth-rate) = 17·2 per 1000

(death-rate) = 10·6 per 1000

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The table below shows the causes of death in the Urban District of Preesall in 1955 :-

	Male	Female	Total
Other Infective and parasitic diseases	-	2	2
Other malignant & Lymphatic neoplasms	2	4	6
Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	3	3
Coronary diseases, angina	7	3	10
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	2	2	4
Other circulatory disease	2	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Other defined & Ill-defined diseases	2	-	2
	22	16	38

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

PERSONNEL.

Acting Medical Officer of Health : C. Robertson Wilson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Other Appointments held : Divisional Medical Officer, Health Division No. 3, Lancashire County Council

Sanitary Inspector, Engineer and Surveyor : S.H.Senior, C.R.S.I.

Officers of the County Council carry out inspections under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Inspections under the Shops Acts 1912-1934 are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. Veterinary inspectors can be called in at the request of the Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH SERVICES.

Ambulance, Health Service and Hospital facilities are now provided within the National Health Service. The Preesall Urban District is in Divisional No. 3 of the Divisional Health Service under the Lancashire County Council.

CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council conducts a Child Welfare Centre at the Parochial Hall, Lancaster Road, Preesall, at 2.p.m. each Thursday.

BYELAWS.

The following is a list of Byelaws in force within the district :-

Slaughter Houses 1901
Offensive Trades 1901
Common Lodging Houses 1901
Horses, Ponies, Mules or Asses Standing for Hire 1901
Hackney Carriages 1901
Nuisances 1901
Public Bathing 1901
New Streets and Buildings 1902
Omnibuses 1902
Pleasure Boats and Vessels 1903
Dairies Cowsheds and Milk Shops 1906
Offensive Trades 1915
Hackney Carriages 1919
New Streets and Buildings 1925
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures 1939
Building Byelaws 1939
Building Byelaws 1953

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

There are 786 houses in your district and of these 8 houses only are without supply of water from the Fylde Water Board's Mains.

All but 117 houses, which are a long distance from the Sewers, are connected to Sewerage System.

There are 842 Water Closets, 34 Pail Closets and 17 Privies. There are 13 houses awaiting conversions and 30 further houses could be converted upon extension of sewers. Plans for Sewage Works for the Park Lane District have been prepared.

House Refuse is collected weekly by the Council Lorry, a Ford 3 ton Refuse Collection vehicle and the Refuse is tipped on the controlled System on to low lying ground. Liquid and Pail Closet contents are put on the tip and covered by the House Refuse.

Arrangements were made with the shops and business premises for collection of trade refuse on payment.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

The Sanitary Inspector reported visiting 161 premises, the discovery of 47 defects, 47 of which were remedied after informal notification.

Shops Acts: There are 59 premises in the district used as shops and all were found to be satisfactory as regards sanitary conveniences, temperature, ventilation and comfort of assistants where employed. The cafes and Restaurants were seen to be clean and well conducted. Clubs and Licensed premises were also satisfactory.

Fish Fryers: The premises of the three Fish Fryers are clean and in very good order.

Schools: The two schools were satisfactory as to premises and conveniences. The water supply was also satisfactory when visited.

Factories: There are 22 premises registered under the Factory Act,1937, including a Salt Works Power House, Corn Mill, Bakeries, Garages and Joiners' Shops.

House Drains: Notices were sent in respect of 22 blocked drains and these had attention by Council's Staff on payment by the owners.

Dust Bins: 25 Dust Bins were supplied and charged to the Owners of properties.

Tents, Vans, Sheds etc: Premises of this description are not continuously occupied. Seven sites are licensed for stationing van-dwellings and tents for the Summer season only. Byelaws have been adopted for the control of moveable dwellings. Lavatory accommodation is provided and Fylde Water is laid on to each site. The sites are well conducted and are kept very clean and tidy. There were four Temporary Camps occupied by Scouts and Girl Guides. Each Camp was inspected by the Sanitary Inspector. During the summer period the population of the district is increased by 25% by persons living in the camps.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS.

The Urban District is mainly agricultural and is well served by the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee Services under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Test baiting of the Sewers has proved negative.

The Council's Refuse tips have had constant attention during the year.

HOUSING.

Seven new houses were built during the year by private enterprise.

Inspection was made of 78 houses and all defects received attention after informal notice.

A classification of houses in your area shows that 73 are large houses, 3 are inns, 40 are farmsteads, 34 are houses and shops, 431 are small modern houses, 185 are good older houses, 18 poor type but habitable, and 2 are under orders for demolition.

There are no back to back houses in the area nor are there any back to earth houses. All houses in the area have through ventilation.

There has been no case of overcrowding during the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The normal sampling of Milk and Foods is done by the Officers of the Lancashire County Council. The Sanitary Inspector accompanies the Official on every occasion and aids in the sampling.

There are two dairies in the district and five dairy farms. One person delivering milk in the district has premises outside the district. He delivers milk to the Schools.

Licensed under the Milk (Special designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949, are the following :-

Tuberculin Tested Milk - Distribution 1.
Accredited Milk - Bottling 1 - Distribution 3.

There is one dairy farm with a licence from the Lancashire County Council for production, Bottling and sale of Tuberculin tested milk.

Two persons are licensed for Retail distribution of Pasteurised Milk under the Milk (Special designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

The rest of the farms in the area produce milk which is collected by lorries and conveyed to depots outside the district.

There are no Slaughter Houses in the District. Two Butchers Shops are inspected regularly.

The four Bakehouses in the district are satisfactory.

Food premises are licensed under the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1939, under Sections 115 and 116.

Purveyors of Ice Cream are registered.

Hawkers are also licensed under the above Act.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

12 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year, 10 of which were of children under school age.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1955.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED												HOSPITAL	
		AGE PERIODS-YEARS												
	Total cases at all ages	0	1	3	5	10	15	25	45	65 and over	Age unknown	Total deaths	Total cases removed to hospital from the district.	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district
Scarlet Fever	3				3							Nil	Nil	Nil
Measles	5	1	2	2								Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	2		1	1								Nil	Nil	Nil
Acute Pneumonia	2								1	1		Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	12	1	3	3	3				1	1		Nil	Nil	Nil

The general health of the District was satisfactory and the incidence of infectious diseases low. The live birth rate was slightly lower than in 1954 but, like that year, remained above the average in the district for the five years 1950-54. The death rate was the same as that for 1954, but remained a fraction above the average for the 1950-54 period. The fact of the Infant Mortality Rate rising from nil to 33 per 1,000 live births looks alarming but is caused by the unfortunate loss of only one child under one year old. Where small numbers are concerned such rates are influenced out of all proportion by one case more or less.

C. ROBERTSON WILSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1956.